

**DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARD (DAB) I
MEETING MINUTES**

Monday, April 3, 2006

7:00 p.m.

Atwater Community Center, 2755 E. 19th, Wichita, Kansas 67214

Members Present

Council Member Carl Brewer
Treatha Brown-Foster
Lois Daniels
Gerald Domitrovic
Lori Lawrence
Debra K. Miller Stevens
Debby Moore
Sharon Myers
Shontina Pickens*
Steve Roberts
Inga Taylor*
James Thompson
LaVonta Williams

Members Absent

Hayley Domitrovic*
Michael Ross*

Guests

Nick & Genie Parrott, 2135 S. Cooper Ct.
Beverly Domitrovic, 1219 George Washington Blvd
Barb Valusek, 1462 N. Old Manor
Sandy Swank, 1462 N. Old Manor
Mike Thompson, 5940 E. Central
Claudale Cavanaugh, 211 E. Pawnee
Nancy Boewe, 3127 Aloma
John Stevens, 3125 E. Boston
Darryl Carrington, 1532 Gentry
Janice Rich, 619 Greenwood
Sam Schaepel, 326 N. Madison
Angie Aubrey, 935 S. Glendale
Nick Parrish, Inter-Faith Ministries
Kenyon Tucker, Hope Street Youth

***Alternates**

City of Wichita Staff Present

Virdena Gilkey, Neighborhood Assistant
Officer Anthony Bamberger, WPD
Officer Paul Kimble, WPD
Officer Cavannah, WPD

Order of Business

Call to Order

Council Member Carl Brewer called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. and welcomed the guests.

Approval of Minutes

Tipton stated that she was present at the last meeting and was shown as absent. **Taylor** stated that she was absent at the last meeting and was shown as present. **Moore (Roberts)** made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Motion carried 9-0.

Approval of Agenda

Council Member Brewer asked if anyone in the audience would like to be added on the Public Agenda. Angie Aubrey, Via Christi and Darryl Carrington asked to be added to the agenda. **Moore (Miller Stevens)** made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried 9-0.

Public Agenda

1. Via Christi Hope

Angie Aubrey, Via Christi Hope, 935 South Glendale, reported that they operate an innovative program that offers services to the frail elderly. There are three components to the service: 1) in-home services (bathing, dressing, meals, etc.); 2) Adult Day Center; Monday – Friday; 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. There is a van service available to pick up participants; and 3) provide on-site physical therapy. Respite care is provided on the weekends for those in need. Also, have contracts with those needing assisted living care. If needed, specialty services are contracted out.

Via Christi Hope only accepts Medicare/Medicaid patients. To qualify for the services participants must be 55 years old or older, nursing home qualified, have mobility issues, are living in the community, and are not already placed in a nursing home. The medical care facility is located in Parklane. The new facility will be located in Riverside Hospital this fall. Via Christi Hope will be adding a 24-bed nursing home facility to its services.

(Ms. Aubrey's response is in italics)

Brown Foster asked for clarity in how citizens qualify for services. *Anyone who is in assisted living, not already placed in a nursing home, and/or lives in the community.* **Lawrence** inquired about the program provider. *The provider is the PACE Program (Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly).*

The board received and filed.

2. Interfaith Ministries

Nick Parish, Inter-Faith Ministries, presented a proposal to end Chronic Homelessness in Sedgwick County. Mr. Parish described the current permanent housing: Inter-Faith Villa North and Inter-Faith Villa Central. These villas house a total of 65 units. The proposal is for a Consolidated Approach, which entails a consolidation of shelters by constructing a 24/7 homeless shelter that provides a reception area, library and computer area, supportive services office complex, satellite health clinic, 3,000 square foot kitchen/dining, 24 hour lunch grill, showers and restroom facilities on demand. Also included would be a men's sleeping area, women and family sleeping area, play areas for children, industrial laundry facilities, clothes room for clothing giveaway, homeless prevention; food pantry for evenings and weekends; transportation, and staffing.

He explained that the next step is to create a Committee to End Homeless in Sedgwick County. The committee would be comprised of representatives throughout the county and the state that will: end homelessness not manage it, implement practices from effective research, ensure a coordinated county-wide strategy, develop Housing Options and Housing Trust, and focus on preventing homelessness and immediately house those who experience homelessness.

Sandy Swank, 1462 Old Manor, stated that she worked on the state level and gave an example of the Housing Trust Fund usage. She explained that the Sleeper Tax, which is comprised from the hotels/motels, could be used to fund homelessness.

The board received and filed.

3. Hope Street Youth Development

Keynon Tucker, 1056 North Ash, presented information on the first sit-in that took place in 1958 in Wichita. Purpose is to raise awareness of our historical heritage and to obtain future recognition from the City of Wichita that the first sit-in occurred on July 19, 1958, where African American youth demanded to be served to end segregated businesses. He stated that there is no mention of this in the history of the city and they would like to work with the City of Wichita to establish and support the recognition in the form of a plaque. There are currently statues in place, but they do not depict what happened at the lunch counter on Broadway and Douglas.

(Keynon Tucker's response is in italics)

Brown Foster asked what does the current statue look like? *There are statues of people eating lunch.* **Taylor** asked what do they want specifically? *We want a plaque that recognizes the historical event of 1958.* **Williams** asked if he knew the names of the people that need to be recognized? *I do*

not, but can get the names. **Brewer** asked for board member, LaVonta Williams, to assist the group with their request.

The board received and filed.

4. Go Zones

Darryl Carrington, 1532 Gentry, thanked the board for their efforts to cleanup and reinvest in Fairmount Park. He stated that he lives, worships and works in the Fairmount community and is glad for the wonderful changes that have taken place in the park. With families coming back to the park, there is a concern for the hot coals that are on the ground and the lack of a drinking fountain. The barbeque pit and the water fountains were removed during the cleanup due to vandalism. Mr. Carrington asked that the board consider spending funds to install drinking fountains and a barbeque pit. The vice president of Fairmount is proposing a baseball game between Patrol North police officers and the neighborhood association members; however, the baseball diamond is not operational.

(Mr. Carrington's response is in italics)

Thompson asked if he was speaking on behalf of Fairmount United Church or which group? *I represent all – the Fairmount Church, Fairmount Neighborhood Association, Inter-Faith Ministries, the Universalist Church, and Go-Zones. However, tonight, I am representing Go-Zones.* **Brewer** stated that during the month of July, the City would start the budgetary process and reviewing projects. The District Advisory Boards will look at the projects and prioritize them for funding. So that you are aware, on last week Fairmount was allocated \$23,000 for improvements. We were told that they needed additional lighting and found funding to provide them.

The board received and filed.

5. Off Agenda Items

No items submitted.

Staff Reports

6. Police Report

Officer Paul Kimble reported the following: 1) surveys are currently being administered on 44 Beat. Community guides and magnets are also being distributed with contact information. Officer Courtney Pierce is the Beat Coordinator; 2) 47 Beat had gang activity last month; 3) 43 Beat is experiencing an increase in prostitution. Plan is to conduct enforcement efforts, as 43, 44, and 47 Beats all are experiencing illegal trash dumping. 44 Beat has abandoned vehicles on private/public streets. All of these issues are being addressed.

(Officer Kimble's response is in italics)

Thompson stated that he has noticed screen doors are missing from homes. *People are stealing the doors for cash. The aluminum is a source of cash.* Thompson also inquired if they were only targeting Beat 44 for abandoned vehicles. *We are targeting all areas for abandoned vehicles.* **Brown Foster** stated that she has noticed a noise increase and asked if they are stepping up enforcement? *Yes, we are watching that as noise increases with warmer weather. We are publicizing the ordinance. I will relay your concern to the other Beat Coordinators.* **Lawrence** commented that with the price of metal, wouldn't it be helpful for people to get rid of their junk cars. *Yes, and we are trying to educate them to that fact.*

Officer Bamberger, SRO in Stucky Middle School, commented that he also works on 47 Beat and wanted to introduce himself to the board.

Officer Cavannah, Patrol South, 21 Beat reported the following: 1) 21 Beat has an increase in graffiti. They have identified the persons doing the graffiti. They are working with the Park Department to improve landscaping; 2) 22 Beat is experiencing an increase in burglaries. As a result, patrol has been increased and a reduction in burglaries is occurring. This beat also has a homeless population that is being addressed. The focus is on the Central Library; 3) 23 Beat has had a rash of non-residential burglaries. Officers are counteracting this with fliers and increased patrolling. This beat is also experiencing an increase in aggravated assaults that are domestic violence related; 4) 25 Beat has seen a spike in residential burglaries. A suspect was arrested and the burglaries stopped.

(Officer Cavannah's response is in italics)

Brown Foster asked if the domestic violence issues are seen as a trend? *Not with domestic violence, as it is more an in-house and personal issue versus a random suspect. For example, we can take measures for graffiti, but domestic violence is harder to measure due to the lack of reporting, etc.*

The board received and filed.

Unfinished Business

No items submitted.

New Business

7. Status Report: 13th St. Improvement, between I-135 and Woodlawn

Gary Janzen, Public Works, presented a status report on the concept study and design for 13th St. N., I-135 to Woodlawn, which is in the 2005-2014 CIP. He introduced Mike Thompson and Paul Ferguson of Poe and Associates.

Mr. Janzen reported that the City of Wichita contracted with Poe & Associates to develop a design for the 13th Street improvement, which is critical to this district. The concept has been submitted by Planning for a 4-lane corridor to be constructed in 2008 – 2009 and is a part of the Transportation Improvement Program. There are the options to: 1) current projection traffic; and 2) pedestrian access. It was important to engage the public most affected, so they attended six neighborhood association meetings and talked to citizens. They also attended the District 1 Coalition Breakfast meeting to discuss the project.

Mike Thompson, Poe & Associates, 5940 East Central, reported that from the six neighborhood associations, 93 surveys were submitted. The top issues were: 1) drainage; 2) continuous left-turn lane; 3) sidewalk/bicycle lane; and landscaping. From Hillside to Oliver is proposed a continuous left-turn and drainage and Oliver to Woodlawn is proposed drainage and landscaping.

Paul Ferguson, Poe & Associates, 5940 East Central, reported that the plan includes a 5-lane option. A traffic study showed that there are 19,000 vehicles per day, which would include a center left-turn lane and would require the City to take some right of way to construct. At Oliver to Woodlawn, that area may be left as a 4-lane with a left-turn. Another option is to build cul-de-sacs on the side streets. **Gary Janzen** explained that there were three separate meetings where the affected property owners were asked to take a survey and from that information a report was compiled. The next time the board is addressed will be the final design phase. Also, that there is federal funding for this project.

(Mr. Janzen's responses is in italics)

Williams asked if there are any of the survey results on paper? *I can provide that information.*

Brown Foster asked if they have talked to any of the business owners? *Not sure. I know we talked to those who attended the neighborhood association meetings.*

No action was required of the board at this time.

8. Community Events

John D'Angelo, Arts and Culture, presented the new ordinance for Community Events, which is being proposed to simplify the application process for citizens. In addition to creating one point for submitting applications, it will also directly address issues for code compliance, safety and consideration for residents with respect to property access, noise and lighting for surrounding neighborhoods. He explained that the new ordinance would be a one-stop shop for applicants, where there are currently 8 to 9 departments that would need to sign-off on the event. The ordinance would address the following outdoor events: a) public property open to the public with over 250 expected attendance; b) private property with over 50 invited guests; and c) park property with over 250 expected attendance. Mr. D'Angelo explained that they have met with the stakeholders and held workshops with the City Council to respond to council's request to streamline the process. If the ordinance passes this year, the new ordinance would go into effect in 2007.

(Mr. D'Angelo's response is in italics)

Brown Foster asked what would be required for the National Night Out that the neighborhoods sponsor every year, would a disc jockey be allowed, and would a Moonwalk have to be licensed? *Block parties would still be subject to licensing requirements, such as Transient Merchants License, to hold the event. All approvals for street closures, alcoholic beverages, carnival type rides, etc. are still necessary before the block party occurs. The music would be allowed through the ordinance and yes, the Moonwalk would have to be licensed.* **Lawrence** asked if the block parties are subject to the limit of five hours to block off streets? *That is in the current requirements and has remained in the new ordinance.* **Domitrovic** asked for a definition of private property. *Private property belongs to an individual. The ordinance is not designed to curtail private events, but to regulate them. Events on private property can create lots of noise and must abide by the noise regulations.* **Miller Stevens** asked if each vendor would need to have a Transient Merchants License and what happens if someone gets rained out? *Yes, each vendor is required to obtain the license. The rained out events would be handled on an individual basis. If the parties have done all that they were required to do, we would work with them through the establishment of an alternate date.* **Brewer** asked if they have established a process flow? *That process is still in the works, however, we have established the fees, etc. Eventually, we may need an Events Coordinator to handle all of the applications for events. As of now, a staff person will be able to tell you the process based off of the application.*

Council Member Brewer stated his appreciation for putting this process and ordinance together. There have been problems in the past where applications had to be hand carried. He thanked John D'Angelo for taking on this task without asking for additional staff. This new ordinance will assure that no matter what type of festival, all will be served.

Brown Foster (Williams) recommended that the City Council approve the proposed ordinance. Motion carried 10-0.

Board Agenda

9. Updates, Issues, and Reports

- **Moore** shared information for an upcoming forum.
- **Brown Foster** announced the Northeast Millair Neighborhood Association Meeting on April 15th. Dr. Elsie Shore, Wichita State University, is their guest speaker. They will also be electing

new officers. She asked that the members say a prayer for current president, Dorothy Nave, who has reoccurring health issues.

Ms. Brown Foster also reported that she attended the African Americans Leadership Summit in Washington, DC with over 500 attendees. There were five persons from the State of Kansas.

- **Daniels** commented that she has appreciated serving on the board and the opportunity to serve her community, but she will not be able to be reappointed. She and her husband have found a house in the county and this is her last meeting. **Brewer** thanked Lois for her contributions, which have been much over the years. He stated that he appreciates all of her hard work and will miss her presence on the board.
- **Thompson** announced that he would be attending a meeting with the Planning Department on the railroad overpass and will report the discussion at the next board meeting.
- **Taylor** announced Center for Health and Wellness is hosting a Garage Sale, April 22nd. All proceeds will be donated to the center. **Tipton** added that they are in need of donations for the sale.
- **Williams** stated that she is still collecting the \$10.00 for the board to purchase a brick for the Piatt Park Memorial.
- **Brewer** announced the District 1 Coalition Breakfast on May 6th and the next DAB 1 Meeting on May 1st.

The board received and filed.

With no further business, **Roberts (Lawrence)** made a motion to adjourn. Motion carried 10-0. The meeting adjourned at 9:03 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Virdena Gilkey
Neighborhood Assistant